



HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH WILLIAMSTOWN

Wednesday 14 February 2024

**10am & 7pm Eucharist
with Imposition of Ashes**



On behalf of everyone at Holy Trinity, a warm welcome to this community, a faithful Christian presence in Williamstown since 1854. Holy Trinity welcomes everyone to all services and events, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or background. We are moved by our calling as the Body of Christ to ensure all our spaces are safe places for everyone.

Thank you for being part of our worship today.

This worship service will also be available on the parish YouTube channel from Thursday, links are on our website under 'Services'.

www.htw.org.au



Holy Trinity Anglican Church is on Bunurong Country, the sovereign land of the Yalukit Willam people of the Kulin Nation. We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over generations and today, and pay respect to all Elders past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of respect, truth-telling, justice and healing.



*Please join in the parts of this service in **bold type**. All directions to stand, sit or kneel are invitations. Please always do as you are comfortable and able. For 7pm worship, words for hymns are in the red hymn books provided.*

Please stand at the invitation of the vicar

*At 7pm **Opening Hymn** TIS 684 Love will be our Lenten calling*

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed be the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

THE SENTENCE

Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. *Joel 2.13*

Sisters and brothers in Christ, from the earliest days of the Church, Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection. It became the custom of the church to prepare for this by a season of penitence and fasting. At first this season was observed by those who were preparing for baptism at Easter and by those who, having been excommunicated, were to be restored to the communion of the church. By keeping these days with care and attention Christians might take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of

forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and grow in faith and devotion to our Lord.

So, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer and fasting, by self-denial and acts of generosity and by reading and meditating on the word of God, let us keep a holy Lent.

Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy**
Christ, have mercy **Christ, have mercy**
Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy**
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD *(please sit)*

First Reading: From the Prophet Isaiah 58.1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head

like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalms 51:1-17 (said together)

**¹ Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:
according to the fulness of your compassion
blot out my offences.**

**² Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**³ For I acknowledge my rebellion:
and my sin is ever before me.**

**⁴ Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your eyes:
so you will be just in your sentence
and blameless in your judging.**

- ⁵ Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:
and in sin my mother conceived me.**
- ⁶ You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.**
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**
- ⁸ Make me hear of joy and gladness:
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.**
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins: and blot out all my iniquities.**
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.**
- ¹¹ Do not cast me out from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.**
- ¹² O give me the gladness of your help again:
and support me with a willing spirit.**
- ¹³ Then will I teach transgressors your ways:
and sinners shall turn to you again.**
- ¹⁴ O Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed:
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips:
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
- ¹⁶ You take no pleasure in sacrifice, or I would give it:
burnt-offerings you do not want.**
- ¹⁷ The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

*Second Reading: From Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians
5:20 - 6:10*

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have

helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Please stand

At 7pm **Gradual Hymn** TIS 341, verses 1, 2, 4

My song is love unknown

The Gospel according to St Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who

is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Please sit

THE SERMON

Rev Elizabeth Murray, vicar

A time of silence will be kept

THE RECEIVING OF ASHES

Blessed are you, God of all creation. You are eternal, we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth. As we receive these ashes, make them a sign for us of repentance and returning to you. Breathe into us again the breath of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Come, receive the sign of ashes.

Those who wish to do so, please come forward in single file to the communion rail step to receive ashes in the sign of a cross on your forehead. Then return to your seat in silence.

The priest says to each person

Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth,
have mercy on us.

Incarnate Word, redeemer of the world,
have mercy on us.

Abiding Spirit, giver of light and life,
have mercy on us.

For turning away from your presence,
for disobeying your word and commandments,
forgive us, Lord.

For trusting in our own strength instead of yours,
for betraying your trust and the trust of others,
forgive us, Lord.

For resisting your grace and refusing your blessings,
for holding back from proclaiming our faith in you,
forgive us, Lord.

For damaging this earth and exploiting its creatures,
for neglecting and wasting the gifts you have given us,
forgive us, Lord.

For failing to forgive as we have been forgiven.
for judging others and bearing grudges,
forgive us, Lord.

For skimping on our commitments and relationships,
for failing in hospitality,
forgive us, Lord.

For tolerating oppression, injustice, and wrong,
for keeping silent when we should have spoken up,
forgive us, Lord.

For turning away when others have offered us love,
for closing our hearts when others have needed compassion,
forgive us, Lord.

For all we have done unkindly, unjustly and dishonestly,
for our careless speech and hurtful words,
forgive us, Lord.

Most merciful God,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The priest pronounces the absolution

With our hearts turned to God in repentance, with the knowledge of our sins laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ, in the name of the living God, your sins are forgiven. Receive God's mercy, take hold of your forgiveness, and, in the power of the Holy Spirit walk in the light of Christ. **Amen**

THE GREETING OF PEACE *(please stand)*

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offerings – A collection will be taken up at this time

Donations to support the life & work of Holy Trinity are most welcome. We rely on your generosity. Cash donations & cheques can be left in the plate. Cashless giving options: Direct EFT details: BSB: 033100; Account number: 490175; or go to www.htw.org.au and click on 'Donate now'.

At 7pm **Offertory Hymn** TIS 252 *When he was baptised*

TUNE: TIS 650 SERVANT SONG

THE OFFERTORY

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues

... for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The prayer continues

... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer continues

... in songs of never ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know. If you do not wish to receive communion and would like to receive a blessing, please also come forward and indicate to the priest your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your front.

Communion is distributed with these words

The body of Christ the bread of heaven keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

The blood of Christ the cup of salvation keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate and loving God, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

Take us and use us to love and serve you and all people, in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand

*At 7pm **Final Hymn** TIS 580 Lead us, heavenly Father*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

God of life and death, from the fullness of yourself you have created all that is; through the power of your love you call us towards you; in the giving of your Son our salvation has been wrought. Our flowering and our passing, all the seasons of the vine, belong to you. Bless us now and in all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Wishing you all a Holy and Blessed Lent



LENTEN STUDIES 2024

Our study for this year will be
 “Loving God and each other”
 using a resource developed by
 Bishop Philip Huggins.

Wednesdays 21st & 28th
 February, 6th, 13th & 20th March,
 7.30-9pm in the Parish Centre.
 You are welcome to all or any of
 these sessions. Think about who
 you could invite to join you!
 Everyone is welcome to attend
 any or all of these sessions as

Your Holy Week & Easter Invitation

24th March 10am **Palm Sunday**

start at Electra Street Uniting Church,
 then process to Holy Trinity

28th March 7pm **Maundy Thursday**

Holy Communion with Foot-washing

29th March 10am **Good Friday**

Solemn Worship

31st March 6am **Easter Dawn**

Dawn Vigil with New Fire

31st March 10am **Easter Day**

Celebration with Holy Communion

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255 Nelson Place, Williamstown

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